

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

The Friday Newsletter



1630

NO. 3

January 21, 1977

"AVERAGE ENVIRONMENTALIST"--A PROFILE: The January issue of the "Audubon" magazine reports results of a survey of Audubon Society members that merits our attention. It reveals that the average member is an executive earning \$36,000 annually (26 percent in top and middle management posts and 40 percent engaged in professional or technical occupations). The median age is 44 years and the membership comprises 58 percent males and 42 percent females; 85 percent attended college and 43 percent attended graduate school.

Perhaps of more particular interest to the Forest Service are the environmental interests presented: 81 percent of the members are especially interested in wildlife conservation, then in descending importance, wilderness preservation, water and air pollution, land use planning, population growth, forestry (54 percent), energy, noise, poisonous substances, and strip mining. Outdoor pastimes include--other than birdwatching--photography, hiking, bicycling, camping, fishing, canoeing, skiing, and backpacking. The "Audubon" magazine is their principal source for environmental information.

JOINT LEADERSHIP MEETING WITH BUREAU OF MINES: The first of a series of joint leadership meetings with the Bureau of Mines was held in Washington on January 7. It was an encouraging and constructive meeting at which Director Tom Falkie and his staff asserted that the Bureau will take a positive approach in assisting the Forest Service in mineral-related activities and decisions. I responded by indicating that the National Forests are important for future mineral developments and that pertinent information from the Bureau of Mines will be important for Forest Service land use planning. Both agencies agreed that National Forest land management planning and other activities can strongly affect mining and access to mineral resources.

CIVIL RIGHTS: At the first meeting on January 19 of the newly reconstructed Department's EEO Committee, poor program management was identified as the single biggest weakness in the EEO effort. The Department has advanced from an EEO Committee comprised of persons with varying organizational responsibilities and selected to represent the various agencies, to one comprised of Agency Coordinators and employee group representatives.

The Forest Service was commended by Assistant Secretary for Administration, J.P. Bolduc (chairman of the Department's EEO Committee) for its recent planning procedures designed to improve civil rights for everyone.

BUDGET ESTIMATES: President Ford's budget for 1978 was presented to Congress on January 17. The Forest Service portion is enclosed with this week's issue of the Friday Newsletter.

PERSONNEL ACTION:

Region 2--William Opfer, Sanitary Engineer, promoted to Sanitary Engineer, WO, Engineering.

Region 3--William Snyder, Forest Supervisor, Carson NF, reassigned to Staff Assistant, Land Management Planning, WO.

Region 4--Fred Wagstaff, Planning and Analysis Staff, promoted to Assistant Program Manager, SEAM, INT.

Region 5--William Covey, Deputy Forest Supervisor, Klamath NF, promoted in place. Jimmy L. Hickman, Staff Assistant, Sequoia NF, promoted to Program Manager, PSW.

SE--David Thorud, University of Arizona, selected for Assistant Director for Continuing Research--Carolinas and Virginia.

WO--Adrian M. Gilbert, Policy Analysis Staff Director, reassigned to Staff Assistant, Office of the Deputy Chief for Programs and Legislation. David Anderson, Staff Assistant, Program Development and Budget, reassigned to Staff Assistant, Land Management Planning, WO.

John L. McElmrie

Chief

----- NFMA-BLM ORGANIC ACT -----
IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

ACTION REPORTS:

Lands reports that several teams are being convened in WO to work with BLM representatives toward promulgation of regulations under the BLM Organic Act. This includes joint procedures for handling applications and authorizing and administering the construction, maintenance, operation, and termination of rights-of-way uses. It is also necessary to resolve policy and procedure differences that are not readily reconciliable, to develop alternatives, and to recommend their resolution for joint adoption by the Forest Service and BLM.

Detailers have been assigned for the above tasks, effective January 24.

Land Management Planning reports that an 8-man team is working on a plan to help implement Section 6 of the NFMA. Section 6 requires the Secretary to formulate a land management planning process that will be conducive to achieving RPA goals and will prescribe certain standards and guidelines. The initial thrust calls for a review of existing Forest Service planning processes, the land management planning processes used by other agencies, literature on wild-land planning, and related Federal laws, executive orders and regulations. The 8-man team is charged with drawing up a work plan to accomplish the requirements of Section 6, in coordination with other efforts now underway in other program areas, such as RPA. This group is also working with WO staff groups in identifying task and accomplishment time frames.

LMP has also arranged with PSW to produce a first draft of a glossary of definitions that will serve to interpret the NFMA.

Timber Management reports Region 6 has determined that 13 communities--10 in Oregon and 3 in Washington--would be adversely affected by sealed bidding and therefore qualify for oral bidding. About 49 percent of timber volume in those areas can be sold by oral auction under the interim timber sale regulations, and until final regulations become effective April 1. The NFMA calls for predominantly sealed bids on National Forest timber, a provision inserted in the Act to prevent collusive bidding. In addition to the 13 communities qualifying for oral bidding 17 others qualified as dependent but they are not adversely affected by sealed bidding.

Region 1 has also determined that three communities--two in Idaho and one in S. Dakota--are adversely affected by sealed bidding and therefore qualify for oral bidding. (Oral bidding may be considered and used where community stability and the public interest may be adversely affected by sealed bidding. The concern is the dependency of the community on National Forest timber.)

U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY
RECEIVED

MAR 7 1917

PROCUREMENT SECTION
Alphabetical Serial File